Delay and Cancellation of flights of Indian Airlines from Calcutta to Agartala

1770. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number and details of Indian Airlines flights from Calcutta to Agartala delayed and cancelled during the months of May and June, 1989;

(b) the reasons for the delay and cancellation; and

(c) the remedial measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) During the months of May and June, 1989, out of 147 flights operated by Indian Airlines from Calcutta to Agartala, 36 flights were delayed and no flight was cancelled.

(b) Out of 36 flights that were delayed, 5 flights were delayed due to reasons attributable to Indian Airlines; 1 flight was delayed due to inadequate airport facilities and 30 flights were delayed due to consequential reasons.

(c) Over 80 per cent of the delays were due to consequential reasons. With the progressive induction of additional Airbus A320 aircraft capacity during 1989-90, Indian Airlines will be in a position to provide necessary cushion/standby capacity which will help minimise delays due to consequential reasons and improve 'on time performance' of its services. Besides punctuality of flights is being monitored constantly at various levels to minimise delays.

Setting up of Science and Technology Centres

1771. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government propose to set up a number of science and technology centres in various State capital;

(b) if so, the purpose of setting up these centres;

(c) whether Government also propose to set up such centres at Bangalore; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The purpose of setting up the centres in the country are as indicated below:

(i) To develop scientific attitude and thinking by encouraging curiorsity and questioning process;

(ii) To encourage critical analysis of social, cultural technological and natural environment and to inculcate an ability to identify the problems and work towards an appropriate solution with scientific attitude;

(iii) To collect and disseminate information relating to mutual interaction of science technology and society;

(iv) To promote and support innovative and experimental activities in pursuit of the purposes of the centres;

(v) To popularise science and taking science to the grass root level through mobile science exhibitions and setting up of small school science centres.

(c) and (d) A national level science centre known as the Visvesvaraya Industrial Technological Museum has already been set up at Bangalore in 1965.

Development of Sea Beaches

1772. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up any scheme for the development of

sea beaches in th country including Orissa; and

(b) if so, what steps so far been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) Development of beach tourism in the country is one of the thrust areas of the Central Department of Tourism. Under this scheme, the Department provides financial assistance to States for development of tourism infrastructure like accommodation, provision of equipment for water-sports, etc. Development of beach resorts is being undertaken in a controlled manner, keeping in view the environmental considerations. Construction of tourist facilities is permitted beyond 500 metres of the high tide line except in case of four beaches where construction is permitted between 500 and 200 metres of the high tide line, subject to certain guidelines and safeguards.

The Department has sanctioned projects in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal and their implementation schedule varies from State to State depending upon the location of the project, its size, executing agency, etc.

As regards Orissa, the State Government have not submitted the revised proposals for financial assistance for development of beach resorts at Chandipur, Paradeep, Gopalpur and Mohododhiniwas, cleared by the Inter-Ministerial Committee.

Expansion of ITDC hotels

1773. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to expand the existing India Tourism Development Corporation hotels in the country and also to establish some new hotels during the current year;

(b) if so, the funds earmarked therefor;

(c) the places identified for the location of new hotels;

(d) whether Government are monitoring the performance of the existing hotels; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) ITDC's Annual Plan 1989-90 includes a provision of Rs 330.00 lakhs for expansion of following accommdation properties owned and operated by them:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of Property	Estimated cost	Approved outlay for 1989-90
Expansion and conversion of Travellers' Lodge at Manali into a hotel	88.00	60.00
Expansion of Kovalam Ashok Beach Resort	309.00	125.00
Expansion of Hotel Jaipur Ashok, Jaipur	143.00	95.00
Expansion of Hotel Agra Ashok, Agra	160.00	50.00
		330.00